



VAL-ECHO

VAL-MARIE SCHOOL
Val-Marie, Sask.
December 1952



LE CHOIX du Val

Ecole Val-Marie, dec. 1952

EDITORIAL

Chers amis,

Nous voilà déjà rendus à Noël! Ce grand jour nous rappelle la naissance de notre Sauveur. Célébrons-le en chrétiens et notre joie sera complète.

Nous félicitons les élèves de l'école qui ont gagné des prix au concours oratoire à Shaunavon. Félicitations spéciales aux garçons qui ont finalement donné un petit coup de cœur pour écrire plusieurs bons articles pour notre journal scolaire. J'espère que ces messieurs du Collège de Gravelbourg, anciens élèves de Val-Marie, seront satisfaits de nos auteurs masculins.

Comme rédacteur de l'Echo du Val, je souhaite à notre zélé Pasteur, à nos bons parents, à nos dévoués instituteurs, à nos chers lecteurs et collaborateurs, ainsi qu'à nos compagnons et compagnes, un joyeux Noël et une bonne et heureuse année 1953!

Lionel Lemire rédacteur

We have already reached the end of this first school term! Where time has gone I don't know, but I do know it is very close to Christmas. Fellow-students, how are you making out with your Christmas exams? Hard, aren't they?

Nothing spectacular has happened during the last four months, but a few events should be noted. The Hallowe'en party was a big success thanks to the various committees in charge.

Congratulations to the Val-Marie students who won prizes at the Oratorical Contest in Shaunavon: Emilie Lamothe, first in group D; Lillianne Clément, second in group E; and James Commodore, third in group C.

The members of the Glee Club have again taken to caroling this year. We take this opportunity to thank the people of Val Marie for the splendid cooperation they have always given them.

On behalf of all the students we wish our parents, teachers, readers, and advertizers a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Patricia Walker

Editor

SEIGNEUR,

bénissez l'année qui commence,

les âmes qui passent,

les heures qui s'envolent

et nous qui Vous cherchons.

LA BENEDICTION PATERNELLE

Parmi les traditions que nous ont léguées nos ancêtres, il n'y en a pas de plus touchantes que celle de la bénédiction paternelle. Oui, lorsque le père élève ses mains d'un geste pieux et solennel bénissant ses enfants, avec cette douce émotion qui se traduit dans sa voix lorsqu'il dit: "C'est de tout cœur, mes enfants, que je vous bénis."

Cette tradition remonte à l'époque où les premiers colons français s'établirent au Canada. Ce sont eux qui l'y ont apportée. Quelle est la signification de cet acte essentiellement religieux? Pour nous, jeunes chrétiens, c'est d'abord une manière d'honorer nos parents et d'attirer sur nous les grâces de Jésus.

Cette bénédiction, c'est d'abord un souhait de bonheur. Mais ce souhait est de plus une prière. Or quand cette prière solennelle à Dieu est celle d'un père pour ses enfants, elle ne manque jamais d'être efficace.

Cette coutume de la bénédiction paternelle ne doit pas être omise ou abolie de nos foyers, mais plutôt propagée dans toutes nos familles canadiennes-françaises.

Rolande Paradis
Grade XII

RUGBY

Le signal est donné, le jeu commence. Roger Massicotte tient le ballon, mais voilà René P. qui court pour l'attraper. Roger du coin de l'œil aperçoit le gros Lionel et lui lance le ballon. René après s'être fait jouer un bon tour par Roger, surpasse Lionel. Norris se met de la partie. Mais voilà Paul-Emile qui attrape René par une jambe et l'envoie promener. Enfin le grand Guillaume prend le ballon, mais René D. s'élanç sur lui. Il s'agit de l'arrêter. Mais René D. est pris par le milieu du corps, et Paul-Emile lance un cri. Emile P. attrape Guillaume par les jambes. René D. et Guillaume roulent avec le ballon, mais Albert et Raymond ont vite arrêté cela. Emilian, le ballon à la main, s'empresse de courir loin des autres. Mais la troupe adverse revient à la rescouf. C'est toute une ruée de vingt-deux corps les uns sur les autres, un noeud inextricable de serpents à têtes humaines. Dela se tord à terre et se déchire. On voit des figures, des chevelures, des jambes remuer dans une monstrueuse et mouvante masse comme des fourmis. Puis le noeud se démêle car la cloche a déjà sonné.

René Dumonceau
Grade IX

LA VEILLE DE NOËL

La veille de Noël nous devons nous préparer pour une grande fête: celle de naissance de Jésus. Nous préparons par la prière, les sacrifices et par une bonne confession.

Quand les enfants sont couchés nous décorons l'arbre de Noël et mettons les présents dessous.

Tous les membres de la famille mettent leurs plus beaux habits. Les garçons et les filles se parent de leur mieux, car après la messe de minuit ils amèneront leurs amies à un délicieux goûter.

La cloche sonne, tous les fidèles entrent dans l'église. Quel beau spectacle! L'église brille dans la nuit comme un phare. L'autel est paré de sa plus belle parure et dans la crèche l'Enfant Jésus semble sourire à sa divine Mère. La chorale de la paroisse exécute les beaux chants de Noël. La messe commence et nous nous agenouillons pour adorer l'Enfant Jésus.

Dolorès Sincennes

CONTRASTS

Only a Baby small,
Lying on straw;
Heavenly forces all
Observe His law.
Even when closed in sleep,
This Baby's eyes
Eternal vigil keep
In Paradise.
His hands, like rosebuds frail,
Which mine could crush,
Control the sea and gale,
Bid storms to hush.
His little feet fast-bound
In swaddling clothes:
Their victor's tread shall sound
Death for His foes.
His tiny head, at birth
Covered with down,
As King of heaven and earth
Shall wear a crown.

Henrietta H. Hronek

AMATEUR NIGHT

On December the seventh the Val-Marie Junior Hockey Club sponsored an amateur hour in the Palais Royal Theatre. A very large crowd was in attendance. The twenty-five contestants gave us a very enjoyable program. Mr. Eldon Trottier won first prize by singing and playing the guitar, Miss Phyllis Murray won the second prize, and the third went to Miss De Etta Stav and Mr. G. Anderson. Mr. Dugagne was master of ceremonies. The members of the Junior Hockey Club thank Mr. Quessy, who is in charge of the club, and all those who helped to make this amateur night a success.

Harold Shortt.

The seniors are examining a crayfish.
Lionel - Where does it come from?
Sister - It comes from the dam.
Lionel - Damn what?...
Sister - Dam, period.

PRAISES

"O ye positive and negative numbers,
bless the Lord.
O ye logarithms and trigonometric functions,
bless the Lord.
O ye dynamic equilibria, and all ye reactions
that go to completion, bless the Lord.
O ye photosynthesis and respiration,
bless the Lord.
All ye chloroplasts and chromosomes,
bless the Lord.
Let $E=mc^2$ praise our Almighty Creator.
Let us bless the Father, and the Son,
with the Holy Ghost;
Let us praise, and exalt Him above all
forever."

Louis A. Lemieux
(from Catholic School Journal)

- - - - -
- - Why did the little moron take a
bottle of beer to bed?
- - So he could sleep tight.

- - -
Pupil - I don't think I deserve zero on
this test.
Teacher - I don't either, but that is
the lowest mark I can give.

- - -
- - Pourquoi Jean n'est-il pas à l'école?
- - Faut qu'il aide à mon père à bêler.
(bail hay)

DEVINETTES

Qu'est-ce qui boit beaucoup, mais n'a
jamais soif?
R. - Un papier buvard.

Qui fait le tour du bois sans y pénétrer?
R. - L'écorce.

Quel est le comble de la stupidité?
R. - C'est de se creuser le cerveau.



WISHING MY PATRONS

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

JOYEUX NOEL

ET BONNE ANNEE!

JACOB'S SALES & SERVICE

MEILLEURS SOUHAITS

POUR NOEL ET

LA NOUVELLE ANNEE!

SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM

CORNET MOTORS

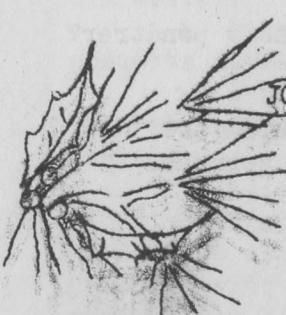
GREETINGS & BEST WISHES

FOR XMAS

AND THE NEW YEAR!

JOYEUX NOEL! BONNE ANNEE!

J. L. LIZEE
General Merchant



MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

HOTEL VAL MARI

Phone 9

C. Grad, Prop.

Where Travellers, Friends,
and Tourists meet,



MERRY CHRISTMAS

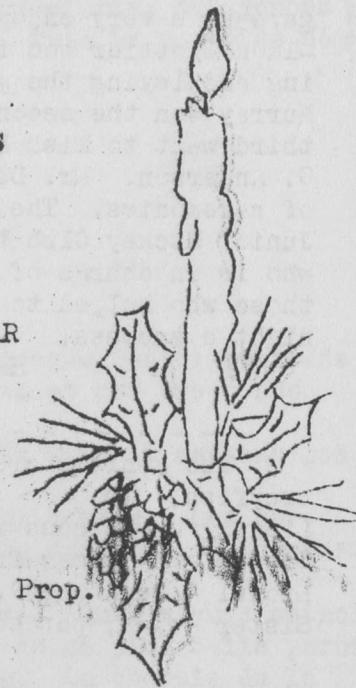
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HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL!

KERM'S CAFE

Yee Sam, Prop.



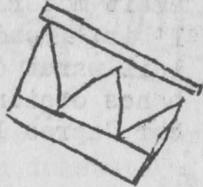
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Joyeux Noël! Agnes Douville

Gr. 1



SCHOOL DAYS

Bonjour, petit Jésus! Mon Jésus, je fais des sacrifices pour vous. Jésus, je voudrais une poupée pour Noël.

Hélène Nadeau

Grade 2

0 0 0 0 0



FUN AT SCHOOL

I go to school. It is fun at school. I can read and add. I can draw too. I like my teacher. I'll dance and sing for Christmas.

Sharyn Olson

Grade 2

I play at school and I like to work too. I am in Grade 2. Sometimes we read then we dance at school. I like to play ball.

Marjorie Speiss

Grade 2

Cher petit Jésus,

Je vous aime. J'ai hâte à Noël. Je fais des sacrifices.

Claire Carrière

Grade 2

Mon petit Jésus,

Je vous aime bien gros. A Noël je veux avoir une poupée, s'il vous plaît.

Diane Scantland

Grade 2

I wish I had a Queen Doll for Christmas. I would like to have a train. I would like to have a baby doll that can say Ma-ma. I want a ball and bat for Christmas. I wish Santa would bring me a real horse. I want a Ma-ma Doll for Christmas.



Merry Christmas

Anna Maffenbeier

UNE TEMPÈTE DE NEIGE

La neige avait tombé toute la nuit et une partie de l'avant-midi. Tout était blanc et calme. Les flocons descendaient comme s'ils avaient regretté de laisser leur lit céleste. Partout la neige reposait et on pouvait à peine distinguer les "coulées" des côtes. Vers midi la neige avait cessé de tomber mais les nuages menaçaient encore et le vent s'était élevé. Il devenait de plus en plus fort. Et voilà la neige qui voile de tous côtés. Le vent hurle et menace de tout écraser sur son passage. Bientôt on ne voit ni ciel ni terre. Tandis que la tempête rage dehors, nous, nous berçons; les pieds près du poêle et plaignons les malheureux qui doivent être en un temps pareil.

Pendant deux jours la tempête a grondé. Au bout du troisième le vent avait modéré. Le soleil paraissait rouge à travers la neige fine répandue dans l'air. Pendant la soirée le vent a cessé complètement. Le lendemain matin le soleil parut dans toute sa splendeur. La neige brillait comme des diamants. Les bancs étaient de dix pieds et plus de hauteur. Maintenant tout est revenu au calme, car "après la tempête vient le beau temps".

Marguerite Côté
Grade XI

LA MESSE DE MINUIT

Il est onze heures et demie. Un beau ciel illuminé d'étoiles semble briller plus qu'à l'ordinaire et une grosse lune souffre aux gens qui s'avancent vers le village.

L'église est éclairée du haut en bas et dans un coin près de l'autel, on aperçoit la crèche où repose le divin Enfant. Celle-ci se trouve au bas d'un rocher où les bergers adorent, et les moutons entourent l'Enfant-Dieu. Au-dessus est écrit en lettres d'or: "Gloria in excelsis Deo". Les anges semblent surveiller tout cela. Toujours le petit Jésus tend ses bras étendus aux fidèles afin de les appeler tous à lui. La sainte Vierge et saint Joseph sont tout près prosternés en adoration. La belle crèche est surmontée d'une étoile, l'étoile de Bethléem.

Minuit! Les cloches de l'église sonnent, appelant tous les fidèles à la touchante cérémonie de la messe de minuit. La messe commence. Le chorale nous fait entendre nos beaux contiques de Noël: "Il est né, le divin Enfant", "Les anges dans nos campagnes", "Minuit, Chrétiens," et beaucoup d'autres. À la communion, tout le monde s'avance pour recevoir Jésus-Hostie en souvenir de sa naissance. Les enfants surtout jouissent en cette belle nuit de Noël.

Après la messe, les fidèles se rendent à la crèche pour adorer l'Enfant Jésus et offrir une aumône. En sortant de l'église tous se souhaitent un joyeux Noël et retournent chez eux pour le délicieux réveillon qui les attend.

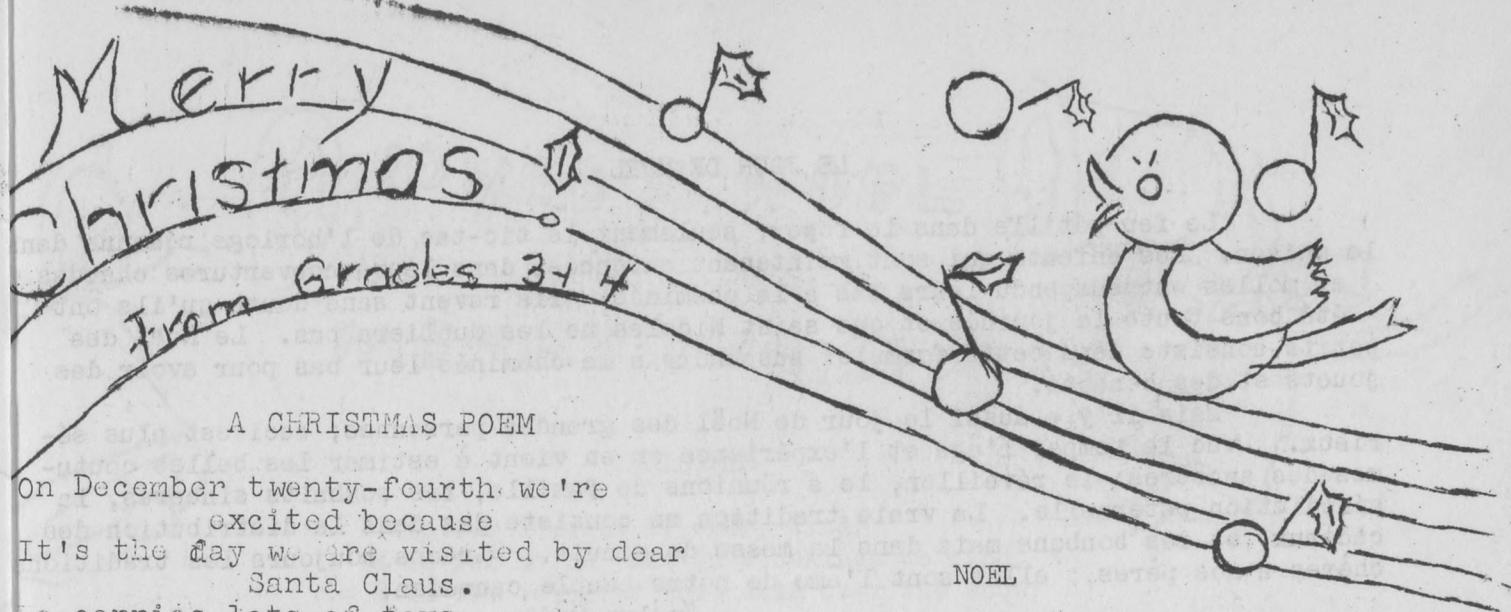
Y a-t-il rien de plus beau que de commencer à célébrer le temps des fêtes par une belle messe de minuit? C'était sacré pour nos ancêtres, ce le doit être pour nous aussi, leurs fiers descendants.

Annette Paradis
Paul-Emile Paradis

CHARADES

Mon premier est en terre;
Mon second mène en terre;
Mon tout jette par terre.
Qui suis-je? (Verglas)

Mon premier est un mets chinois;
Mon second est une partie du corps;
Mon tout est une draperie?
Qui suis-je? (Rideau)



A CHRISTMAS POEM

On December twenty-fourth we're excited because It's the day we are visited by dear Santa Claus.

He carries lots of toys
For good girls and boys
In his beautiful sled
Drawn by his reindeers eight.
The reindeer ahead
Is Rudolph with his noes of red.
In the morning at half past eight
Mother says "Get up, it's late."
We all say our Prayers
And then rush downstairs
To the decorated tree
And every child says, "oh Gee."

Adele Douville
Grade 4



NOEL

A Noël on va à la messe de minuit.
Tout est beau. Il y a des belles lumières dans l'église. On voit le petit Jésus dans la crèche. J'aime le petit Jésus et je prépare mon cœur pour Noël. Je fais des sacrifices pour Jésus. Noël est un beau jour.

Laurent Paradis
Grade 4

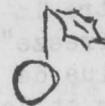


NOEL

A Noël, je vais à la messe pour prier Jésus. On voit le petit Jésus dans sa crèche. On voit les moutons dans les côtes et les bergers qui viennent voir Jésus. Avant de partir on donne un beau cadeau à Jésus. Mon cadeau est mon petit cœur.

Merci, Jésus, pour tout ce que vous nous avez donné.

Marie-Anne Leblanc
Grade 4



WINTER

In winter the snow comes. My daddy gets me some toys. I open my presents and I find what is in them. My daddy gets a Christmas tree. I like it very much and I like my daddy too.

Robert Murray
Grade 3



NOEL

Noël est la plus belle fête. A Noël je vais à la messe de minuit. Je vois le beau Jésus dans sa crèche. J'aime bien le petit Jésus. Je joue avec mon petit frère à Noël.

George Anderson
Grade 3

CHRISTMAS

I like Christmas because the bells are ringing, and the children are having fun. It is Jesus' birthday. Our fathers and mothers are having fun too, and everybody is happy.

Wayne Erne
Grade 33



LE JOUR DE NOËL

Le feu pétille dans le foyer; seulement le tic-tac de l'horloge résonne dans la maison. Les enfants qui sont maintenant enfoncés dans leurs couvertures chaudes et molles ont suspendu leurs bas à la cheminée. Ils rêvent sans doute qu'ils ont été bons toute la journée et que saint Nicolas ne les oubliera pas. Le Noël des petits consiste dans cette formule: suspendre à la cheminée leur bas pour avoir des jouets et des bonbons.

Mais il y a aussi le jour de Noël des grandes personnes; ceci est plus sérieux. Avec le temps, l'âge et l'expérience on en vient à estimer les belles coutumes des ancêtres: le réveillon, les réunions de famille, les souhaits sincères, la bénédiction paternelle. La vraie tradition ne consiste pas dans la distribution des cadeaux, et des bonbons mais dans la messe de minuit. Gardons toujours les traditions chères à nos pères; elles sont l'âme de notre peuple canadien.

Evelyn Goddy

ON DEMANDE À SAINT NICOLAS

Lionel - un livre de "jokes". Il n'en sait plus pour raconter à la classe française.
Yvonne - veut être de retour à Gravelbourg avant que les collégiens s'en aillent pour leurs vacances.

Lillianne R. - désire rester au couvent pendant les vacances de Noël.
Florence - Un remède contre la fatigue.

Marguerite - de l'"anti-freeze" pour son bâzou.

S. Marie-Libératrice n'a plus de talent à chacun de ses élèves pour conjuguer des verbes, analyser et écrire des dictées.

DECEMBER

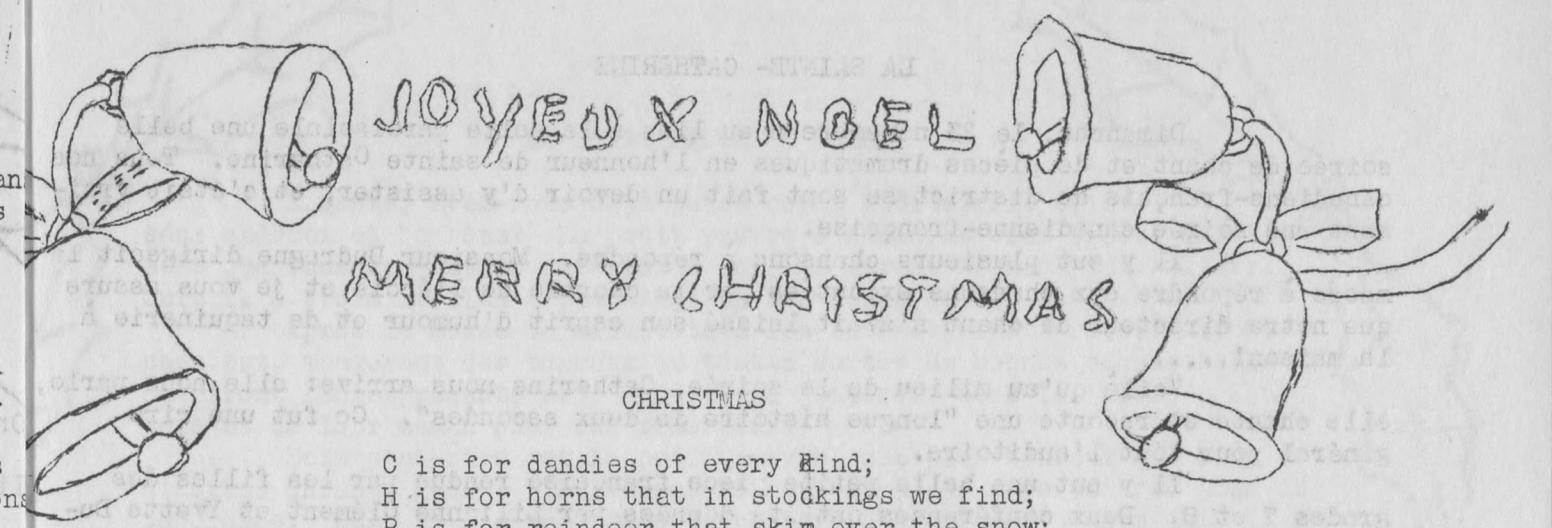
This month is a month of joy,
To every little girl and boy.
'Tis great for them to say,
"Mummie, is Santa coming this way?"

December has many scenes,
When the snow in the sunlight gleams,
And the trees are bare and white,
But the moon still shines bright.

Then you'll see dear Santa Claus,
Then you'll gasp, and stare and pause,
To see what he will bring for you,
And see if there is something new.

But of course you've always happy
On that bright and grand day
In the morning when you awake
And go to the tree in great haste.

Mary Dukat



JOYEUX NOËL

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS

C is for dandies of every kind;
H is for horns that in stockings we find;
R is for reindeer that skim over the snow;
I is for icicle that freeze your toe;
S is for Santa, big and strong;
T is for tinsel that shines in the night;
M is for manger where Jesus was laid;
A is for angels that sing sweet music;
S is for the star that shines on Xmas eve.

contributed by Mary Purask

Grade 6

LE JOUR DE NOËL

Joyeux Noël! Ce souhait est bien ancien mais toujours nouveau. A tous les
nous ressentons des nouvelles joies en ce beau jour de l'anniversaire de la naissance
du divin Enfant. Et par la pensée nous nous unissons avec les bergers qui allègent
l'adorer. Oui, vers onze heures, la veille de Noël il nous semble entendre le
antique des anges: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Si chacun de nous se hâte de se préparer
pour aller à la messe de minuit afin de prier Jésus pour tous ceux que nous aimons,
et aussi pour les pauvres pécheurs qui refusent de venir adorer Jésus -Enfant.

Après la messe de minuit, dans la plupart des foyers, il y a des réunions de
parents et d'amis qu'on appelle réveillon. Après un succulent goûter il y a le dé-
guisement de l'arbre de Noël. Chacun reçoit un présent et la joie règne dans tous
les coeurs. Puis on chante et on s'amuse tout en absorbant un petit verre de vin de
temps en temps. C'était ainsi dans le bon vieux temps.

A tous je souhaite un Joyeux Noël!

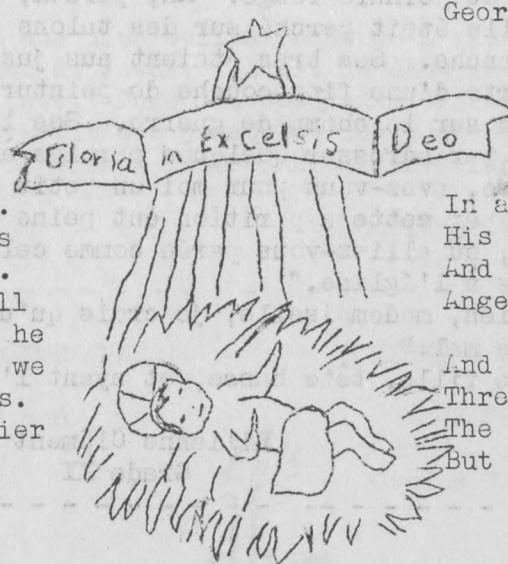
Georgette Pinel

Grade 4

CHRISTMAS

December is here
again. Only a few days
are left before Christmas.
Boys and girls are anxious
for Santa Claus. I am....
if I have been good he will
fill my stocking. I hope he
fills yours too. I think we
will have a mild Christmas.

Carlin Maffenbeier
Grade 5



ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT

In a manger a little Babe lay,
His poor little head on a heap of hay;
And out in the sky you could hear
Angels singing so bright and clear.

And you could see a big bright star;
Three wise men came from afar;
The shepherds were there,
But nothing to offer but a prayer.

contributed by Phyllis Keslering
Grade 6

LA SAINTE- CATHERINE

Dimanche, le 23 novembre a eu lieu à la salle paroissiale une belle soirée de chant et de pièces dramatiques en l'honneur de sainte Catherine. Tous nos canadiens-français du district se sont fait un devoir d'y assister, et c'était vraiment une soirée canadienne-française.

Il y eut plusieurs chansons à répondre. Monsieur Dudragne dirigeait la masse à répondre aux chansons exécutées par la chorale de l'école et je vous assure que notre directeur de chant n'avait laissé son esprit d'humour et de taquinerie à la maison!.....

Voilà qu'au milieu de la soirée, Catherine nous arrive: elle nous parle, elle chante et raconte une "longue histoire de deux secondes". Ce fut une rire général pour tout l'auditoire.

Il y eut une belle petite pièce française rendue par les filles des grades 7 et 8. Deux conférences ont été données par Lilianne Clément et Yvette Dumonceau; des conseils pour prendre soin de vos maris. Un quadrille fut exécuté par les filles des grades 9, 10 et 11; cela nous rappelait le bon vieux temps. N'oublions pas que nous avons mangé de la tire faite le soir même à la salle. En même que nous chantions "La tire" de Larrieu deux demoiselles étiraient la bonne tire, et quand celle-ci fut prête elle fut distribuée à l'auditoire.

Les prix de catéchisme donnés par son Excellence Monseigneur de Lommeux, et décernés à Mmes Lilianne Clément et Georgette Pinel ont été présentés ce soir-là. Monsieur Jean Cornet, président de l'A.C.F.C., fit la distribution des prix français. A tour de rôle chaque méritant venait chercher son prix au bruit des applaudissements de la foule.

Merci à tous nos canadiens qui ont contribué au succès de cette soirée. Vous avez compris qu'en conservant notre langue française, nous conservons notre foi. Merci aux dames qui ont bien voulu s'occuper des bonbons. Merci aux religieuses qui se dévouent sans compter pour la cause française et qui par leurs efforts contribuent à conserver notre belle langue française dans notre paroisse.

Florence Ruest
Irène Dumonceau.

UN ENTRETIEN ENTRE SAINT PIERRE ET UNE JEUNE FILLE MODERNE

Saint Pierre, en ouvrant la porte, vit que sa prochaine cliente serit une jeune fille. Je vais essayer par quelques mots décrire son apparence générale. Son visage menu était poudré et peinuré rouge. Ah, pardon, mesdames, je crois que c'était du rouge. De plus elle était perché sur des talons de trois pouces et ressemblait à un oiseau sur une branche. Ses bras étaient nus jusqu'aux épaules, et ses ongles étaient aussi recouverts d'une fine couche de peinture. Le tout faisait revivre le portrait d'un Indien sur le champ de guerre. Ses lèvres d'un rouge juteux se mirent en jeu et finirent par adresser quelques paroles à saint Pierre:

"Ah, bon saint Pierre, avez-vous pour moi un petit coin dans votre paradis?

Saint Pierre ébahi par cette apparition eut peine à recouvrer la parole.

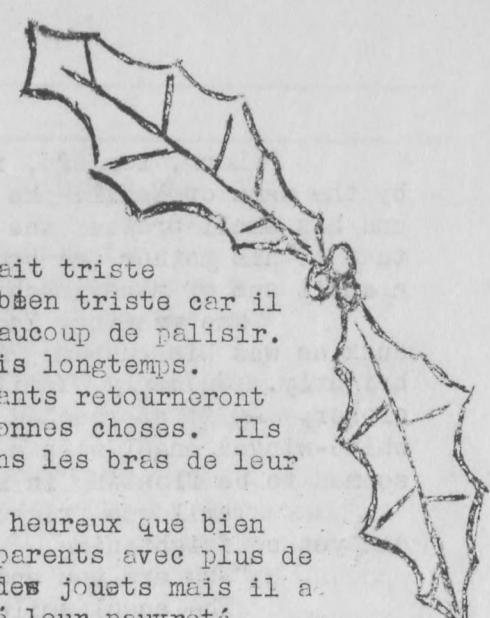
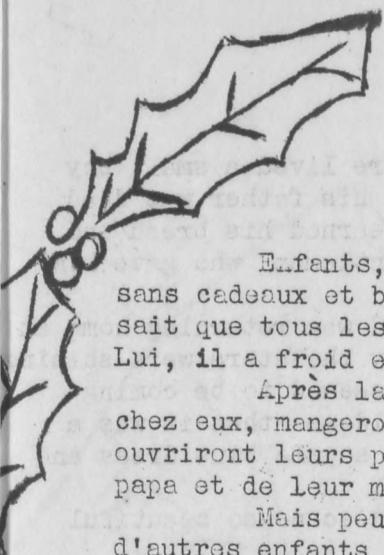
"Mais, mademoiselle, où alliez-vous parée comme cela?"

"Justement, j'allais à l'église."

"Comme cela? Eh, bien, mademoiselle, je crois qu'un petit séjour au purgatoire ne vous ferait pas de mal."

Avec cela, la pauvre fille, tête basse, et ayant l'air bien déçue, partit à pas lents.

Lilianne Clément
Grade XI



LE PETIT PAUVRE A NOËL

Enfants, avez-vous déjà pensé comme Noël serait triste sans cadeaux et bonbons? Le petit pauvre à Noël est bien triste car il sait que tous les autres enfants de son âge auront beaucoup de plaisir. Lui, il a froid et il n'a pas mangé un bon repas depuis longtemps.

Après la messe de minuit tous les autres enfants retourneront chez eux, mangeront des bonbons et toutes sortes de bonnes choses. Ils ouvriront leurs présents avec joie et se jettent dans les bras de leur papa et de leur maman pour les remercier.

Mais peut-être que le petit pauvre est plus heureux que bien d'autres enfants gâtés. Il embrassera peut-être ses parents avec plus de tendresse. Lui, il n'a pas connu le plaisir d'avoir des jouets mais il a des parents qui l'aiment et qui lui donneraient malgré leur pauvreté.

Alors, chers petits enfants, priez bien pendant la messe de minuit pour ces chers petits pauvres que le petit Jésus aime.

Lucille Paradis

Grade 8

CHRISTMAS TIME

Do you children realize that Christmas is just around the corner? It's hard to believe it when you cannot see a speck of snow anywhere. But I still haven't given up the idea of having a white Christmas.

We are all thinking about Santa, trying to concentrate on examinations, and practising for the Christmas concert. Then comes the big task of Christmas shopping, wrapping parcels and addressing cards.

Are we glad when the Christmas holidays come! But I hope we don't forget to prepare to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ-Child.

I hope Santa will be good to you all. Merry Christmas to you all!

Lucille Paradis

NOËL

Noël est une des plus belles fêtes de l'année. Ce qui fait cette fête si belle c'est la naissance de Jésus. Il est né dans une étable pour sauver les hommes. Préparez-vous à cette fête. Dans le cœur des enfants c'est une fête de joie car ils savent qu'ils vont avoir des jouets et des bonbons.

Préparons-nous bien à fêter Noël en chrétien. Jésus-Enfant nous b'nira

Laurianne Ruest
Grade 8

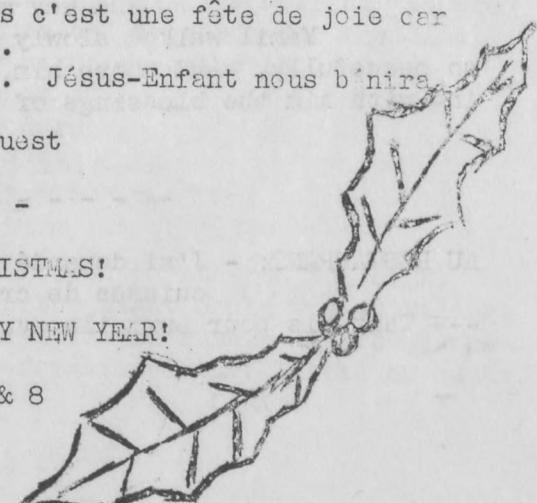
JOYEUX NOËL! BONNE ANNÉE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Grades 7 & 8

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Grades 7 & 8



CHRISTMAS GIFT

Long, long ago, in the land where Jesus was born, there lived a small boy by the name of Yamil. He was a poor boy; his mother was sick, his father was dead and his small brother was too young to work for a living. He earned his bread and that of his mother and brother by keeping sheep, for a rich gentleman who gave him a small sum of money each week in payment.

One evening, Yamil had put the sheep in their pen and was returning home at dusk as was his custom. All was dark and hushed and in the sky the stars were shining brightly. Suddenly, Yamil noticed a light far away which seemed to be coming closer. As it approached the light became brighter and he could see that it was a white-winged angel with a light all around it. He was wearing a pale blue dress and seemed to be floating in air.

Yamil was frightened; never before had he come upon a scene so beautiful and yet so frightening.

"Who are you and what do you want?" he asked.

The angel smiled at him; "I am a messenger of God and I have come to announce to you the birth of Christ on this holy night."

"Christ? I have never heard of him. Who is he of whom you speak with so much love and respect?

"Christ is the Son of God, He who had given you all things," the angel replied. "Tonight He will take the form of a little child to come on this earth to be the saviour of this sinful world." The angel paused. Then said, "Listen!"

Yamil listened as a screaming, moaning sound rose and died away. He trembled. "What is that dreadful noise?" he asked fearfully.

"Alas," sighed the angel, "such is the world today! Did it not make you think of wicked things?.... But there are still some good ones. Tonight three kings and some shepherds will come and adore Him and bring Him gifts."

Yamil stood silently for a few minutes and then he sighed, "How I wish I could bring Him a gift also."

"Perhaps you can," the angel smiled, and faded away. He stood blinking in the dark. Could it have been only a dream? No, for in his heart there was a feeling of peace and warmth.

Yamil looked up to the skies. Above him was shining a great star. He was standing straight and tall in the night looking up to the star. He was singing, as a gift to the Christ-Child, a song which came straight from his heart.

"He came upon a lonely night,
With angels hovering over him;
And human hearts warmed at the sight,
As the angels were singing a hymn.

Peace to men and to all things on earth,
Peace that is brought tonight with a birth.
May all gifts given to Him be love,
And may man adore the Lord above."

Yamil walked slowly home. Never before had he felt so strangely and yet so peacefully. And above him, in the sky, an angel escorted him safely home, bringing with him the blessings of the Lord to the little home and its inhabitants.

Cécile Côté
Grade 7

AU RESTAURANT: - J'ai demandé des cuisses de grenouilles, et vous m'avez servi des cuisses de crapaud.

--- Tant pis pour eux; ils avaient beau ne pas tant leur ressembler.



MEET GRADES 9 AND 10

Barbara - a baseball fan.
Mary - the big girl of grade 9.
Yvette - likes to go to the show.
Garth - the shortie of grade 9.
Gordon - sure goes for the door when the bell rings, but has to wait anyway.
Emilie - the oratorical contest winner.
Leona - simply loves to be by herself.
Albert - enjoys sitting behind Barbara, My!
Paul - leaves his big French dictionary on the floor.
Emile - the star of Grade 9 in Algebra.
Emilien - the twin star in geometry.
Raymond - the late comer but steady worker.
Ivan - the bow-legged cow puncher.
Leonard - watches the clock.
Noëlla - always quiet.
Yvonne - hails from Gravelbourg.
Bill - likes to tease Irène.
Annette C. - the pretty red-headed miss of grade 10.
Irène - just loves ancient history.
René D. - forgets to address the president before he speaks.
Lauraine - is the regular farmerette.
Katy M. - is the quiet K-K-Katy.
Annette P. - always first in the morning.
Kené P. - is the big time farmer.
Florence - the least noisy of all the boarders.
Lillianne - comes from Frenchville.
Katy S. - tries to get to school on time.

GLEE CLUB MEETING

A Glee Club meeting was held on Thursday December 4 to organize caroling. It was decided that there would be two groups to make it possible to visit all the homes. Sides were chosen by the captains: Dolores Perrault and William Barron. It was decided that the proceeds would be used to buy a microphone and records for the Glee Club. Carolling will start at seven o'clock on Thursday night December 18.

Barbara Commodore
Grade 9

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

In nineteen hundred and fifty-two
I hung up my stocking at half past two.
I went to bed for as you know
Very soon Santa was due.

I heard a noise and stopped to think,
And out in the night Santa was whistling.
But the trample and rumble of his steeds
Made me so frightened that I said my beads.

Paul Lemire

MY LITTLE SISTER

She saw me wrap my parcel
So nothing else would do,
She must have Xmas paper
To wrap a parcel too.

Then, "Sister, come and look," she cried,
You must wink or laugh,
For this precious Xmas parcel
Weighs a dollar and a half.

Contributed by Alita Nordwick.

LE SOIR VIENT

Quand la nuit approche,
Et le jour devient sombre,
On entend la cloche,
Dans la froide ombre.

C'est le temps de rentrer;
L'étoile va briller bientôt;
C'est le temps de prier,
Et de faire un beau dodo.

Gabrielle Ruest
Grade 6

ART LABELLE

BILLIARDS

NEWSTANS

NOVELTIES

SOUVENIRS

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and a

PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

from the

THE BEAVER LUMBER COMPANY

Val Marie

Phone 4

CHRISTMAS

Christmas comes in December. Jesus was born at midnight, so that is why we have a midnight mass. Many, many people go to it. We all have something to say to little Jesus. We see Him in the crib, with his mother Mary, Saint Joseph and the shepherds.

On Christmas day friends and relatives gather. We sing songs, eat candy and play with our toys. We thank Jesus for all this. Some children have no fun at Christmas, for some are poor and have no father nor mother. Just think what it would be to spend Christmas without them.

Yvonne Sincernes
Grade 5.

SOME RIDDLES

1. Why didn't Noah play cards in the ark?
2. What do bees do with their honey?
3. If your neighbor's gander laid an egg in your yard to whom woould the egg rightfully belong?

Grade 5

Contributed by Josephine Heisler

Grade 5

OUR GREATEST GAME

Just before our Christmas holidays I went down to the old school-yard to watch a game of foot-ball between our team, the Val-Marie Milk Pails and the Cadillac Cattle-Racks. I was on edge all through it. I was sitting on Mr. Quessy's bumper. My how good our team looked. Ivan out there with his hair done up in bobby pins; Rene D., still wearing a Hallow'een mask; Rene perruIt à black eye where Georgie hit him; Buddy wearing his girdle on his underwear; Lionel, smoking a stoogie; Harold, substituting for a goal post; and last of all Raymond P., with the egg of yesterdays breakfast still on his face. Oh! Yes, and Gordon over there hauling ice, we didn't need water. Yea sir; what a sight they made in their green and yellow uniforms with three and a half red dots on the rear. And me of course, their splendid announcer. Haarumph!

We all rose as Albert started playing the National Anthem on his Jew's harp under the teams faithful old flag the Joly Roger. Emile and Emilien were ready for business too. They were the stretcher bearers.

The land 2 rhythm band began blazing away to "Old Black Joe" and the Cattle-Racks came charging out on to the field, whiskers whistling in the breeze, led by their star player, Pimpy McSnoogle. Then out came our boys gently carried on stretchers singing their favorite old pop-up song;

Kick in their shins, Splatter their blood,
Sock in their eyes, and drag'em through the mud.
Knock out their teeth, Break their legs,
Crack, their heads, Like soft boiled eggs.

And let's have a nice clean game.....

The two teams lined up and the whistle blew. The Milk-Pails had the ball first. Ivy snaps it to Buddy. Buddy being a chubby sort of chap climbs up into the stands and comes running down the middle. But it was too bad. He tripped on the 5 yd. line, Schmidt picks up the ball; but it is too heavy for him. He drops it on Stew's foot. Stew is now flat footed. Ivy comes up, takes a wild kick at the ball. He misses. His foot goes flying over centre field fence. It hits the score board. Bang! It goes right through. Ivy is now less footed. A cattle-Rack player falls on the ball. The ball blows up. The referee tries to whistle. His whistle is full of mud. The mud flies out, hits Short's right arm, and breaks his arm. The whistle blows. The round is over. The score now is about 78 - 0 for the Cattle-Racks.

Yes, Sir, today's the day the Milk-Pails will show what they're really made of. I'll be spread all over the field. (Pause for station identification.)

The Milk-Pails are sure battered up as they go out for their second round, in a huddle. The whistle blows. It's the Milk-Pails kick-off. Dumonceaux sets off the ball while Lionel trots down to the other side of the field. He turns, judges the distance, adjusts specs, throws away his cigar, and is off. Boy! look at him go. He's 50 feet from the ball, 40, 30, 20. Oops! he slips in the mud. He slides in head first. His head hits the ball. There is a mighty impact. Peeloooww, and the ball goes sailing over the heads and strikes the goal posts, but as luck would have it, it bounces off the bar and hits the referee on the can. Ivy grabs it and goes tearing down the side. He crashes into the dugout. He fumbles the ball. It lands in Buddy's mouth. He spats it out. Boy! Now look at Schmidt go: 10, 20, 30 yards, knocks over three layers, 40, 50 yards, dodging, twisting, swerving, 60, 70, 80. But oh, it is too bad, he never had the ball. By this time Short has moved over by the goal posts and is lying down on his portable bed while Stew is eating himself. Buddy has the ball now. He tears down centre. The Cattle-Racks close in. Buddy is desperate. He sees a hole and runs for it; but he'll never make it, for it's Short's mouth. He runs out. The Cattle-Racks are upon him: CRASH! BANG! PLUFF! POW! Where's the ball? Lionel picks up something. WAIT! It's not the ball: it's Buddy's HEAD!

(continued on next page)

Pardon me, he made seven. The whistle blows again.

There's the kick-off! Look at her go. Short crawls under it. It lands in his back pocket. Here come the Cattle-Racks! Shortt wants to live. He's off. Boy! What speed! PLOP! He falls down a gopher hole. They take off the referee's pants to make a life line. Call the ambulance. They pull him out piece by piece, load him up and haul him away. On with the game! Another 20 touchdowns for them. The Milk-Pails are boiling mad. Dumonceaux is just smoking. He passes his cigar around. They all have a puff. It kills Lionel!... It wasn't his brand. They haul him away too. Schmidt again goes tearing through the court. 10, 20, 30, 40, but Peasberg brings him down. He did it again. He never had the ball. The Milk-Pails are hard-up for players. All those left can't even stand up. Dumonceaux is in one corner making his last payment on his life insurance. Pinel, Milk-Pail's quarter-back, at this time he has only half of his back, addresses the players to encourage them. "There's still a chance," he gasps, "we must make one more try. It would be a disgrace if we don't score and...." The sentence was never finished. They carried him off too. The lined up in a nice neat crooked line facing their opponents. Four minutes left to play. Yvy was first to carry the ball. He made 10 yards and fainted. Schmidt made 15 more. Now it was all up to Buddy and Dumonceaux. They only needed 374 goals. Buddy grabbed the ball and went tearing down the dotted line but he made only 23 yards. Now it was up to Dumonceaux. Only 18 yards to go. Could he make it? 5, 10, 12, 14, the Cattle-Racks were coming fast, 15, 16, 17, they had him. He was up, he was down, he was up, he was down, up, down, up, down, and all over. He only made 17 yards, 2 feet, 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The score was now 399 - 0 for them. The only mark on the Milk-Pail's side of the score-board was a mark left by Ivan's foot. It was a good game and a close one. But the Cattle-Racks took a slight lead to win the 1952 Silk-Stocking Finals.

William Barron
Grade X

LE JOUR DE L'AN

Encore quelques semaines et nous pourrons dire, " Demain, ce sera l'année 1953." Le jour de l'an est une belle fête consacrée par l'Eglise à la circoncision de Notre-Seigneur. Déjà les maisons toutes décorées ont un air de fête. Nous voulons arriver bien vite à la nouvelle année car son premier jour est toujours bien joyeux.

Les enfants depuis longtemps demandent leurs étreintes. Ce jour là de bon matin, ils s'empressent près de la cheminée pour regarder ce qu'ils ont dans leurs bas. Les membres de la famille échangent leurs souhaits. Puis le chef de la famille donne la bénédiction à ses enfants.

Le jour de l'An est un jour de pardons, de souhaits, et une journée de bonheur dans toutes nos familles canadiennes.

Noëlla Sincennes

* *



The students of grades eleven and twelve
Send you this greeting to convey
Best wishes for Christmas
And New Year's day.

* * * * *

Les élèves des grades onze et douze
souhaitent un joyeux Noël
et un heureux nouvel an
à tous leurs parents et amis.

* * * * *

NUIT DE NOËL

LE NOËL DES ENFANTS

C'est un soir tout tranquille où le nuage glisse
Sur la pente du ciel, où la lune poursuit
Derrière cet écran, sa course d'un pas lisse,
Ou le flot comprimé sur laglace, gémit.

C'est la nuit de Noël. Dans les maisons en fête,
L'on s'agit beaucoup autour du sapin vert
Qui se dresse pimpant, chargé jusqu'à son faîte,
Près du foyer joyeux qui me souffle ces vers.

Soudain, lacloche chante, et l'on voit des fenêtres
Où la clarte brillait, s'éteindrotour à tour.
Le peuple penetré de Celui qui va naître,
S'en vadans lanuit claire à l'église du bourg.

C'est la nuit de Noël. La lune éblouissante
Comme un bel ostensoir, tissé des toiles d'or
Sur le chemin desert, pendant que frémisse,.
Lafoule agenouillée offre à Dieu ses trésors.

G. P.

* * * * *

Echoes of Angels' song, I pray,
Live in thy soul this Christmas Day.
Thine be a goodly share of joy
Out from the heart of Mary's Boy.
Into thy heart may sweet peace steal
Grace that will every sorrow heal.
His Little Hand thine own enfold,
Leading where love grows never old.

CHRISTMAS OF THE FUTURE

'Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the house
Not a creature was stirring
Not even a mouse -- oh, well, by 1990 there probably
won't be any mice left anyway.

In the parlor stands a seven-foot synthetic fir tree that looks and smells like the real thing. All the lighting effects from the huge silver star on top, to the base, are lat by atomic power. As there is no need of fireplaces (atomic energy is used as fuel) Santa cannot fulfill the ancient tradition of coming down the chimney. All he does is open a trap-door on the plastic roof with a push-button and drop the gifts down a chute. Even Santa has profited by the atomic age and has switched to a jet-propelled helicopter and turned his famous reindeer out to pasture. Poor Rudolph, who was just in his prime, has been replaced by radar. Even the peoples of other planets are profiting, as in his new airplane, old St. Nick can go on much longer trips to other worlds that could not have been reached with his reindeers.

Instead of receiving cowboy and police outfits, young children are often given small chemistry sets that enable them to assemble midget atoms and hydrogen bombs. Proud parents want nothing but the best for their children and sincerely hope they will get a big 'bang' out of Christmas.

Anne Barron

* * * * *

DECORATING THE CHRISTMAS TREE

I think the best part of the Christmas preparations is decorating the Christmas tree. First you trim off a few of the out of place branches. Then you select a suitable stand on which to put the tree. If you're very lucky you will get the tree standing up straight after half an hour of trying. Usually it tips first to one side then the other. When you have the tree straight as a pine you get ready to put on the star. Up you go to the top of the step ladder and suddenly find you have forgotten the scissors. By the time the top is trimmed and the star balanced you are almost tuckered out. When you come to put on the rest of the ornaments your little brother is there to lend a helping hand. At last you are ready to step back, after a few broken bulbs and cut fingers, to admire your master-piece. You suddenly see that your helpers has placed a blue ball by a green one. You fix it only to find you have knocked down some of the other ornaments. By the time they are up again you notice that almost every ornament has a duplicate by its side. "That will just have to do", you sigh, "before I knock the whole mess down".

Marguerite Côté

* * * * *

PASSE-TEMPS FAVORI

Annette C. - Chanter: "Au fond des campagnes qu'il fait, fait bon..."
Florence R. - "Baby-sitting" tous les petits de Frenchville.
Lilliane R. - Lire son dixième livre.
Evelyn G. - Manger du chevreuil.
Lionel L. - Exercer les cantiques pour la messe de minuit.
Yvonne A. - Aller au cinéma avec son petit frère.
Marguerite C. - Chanter en lavant la vaisselle.

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

Marguerite - will try to make it to school in all kinds of weather.

Lionel - Has resolved more firmly than ever to get seven recommendations in June.

Henriette and Anne - Have decided to give up understanding "George" and make a special effort to understand the purpose of "x" and "y".

Delores S., Marceline, and Co. are giving up foursome until after graduation.

Delores P. - No more dancing till graduation.

Evelyn - Wants to try to develop a liking for Val-Marie.

Martha - Has resolved that Home-Economics is "the" subject for her. What are your future plans, Martha?

Norris - In the future, he will try not to get in the book-case the quick way, and he'll respect the glass.

Shirley - From now on it's "no more absences or late".

Patsy - Will try to be a good girl from now on.

Harold - Will wear out at least one pair of shoes from dancing.

Rolande - Says she will be lavish with her New-Year's kisses.

Paul-Emile - Will be the most dynamic and dashing boy in school from now on.

PUPILS' FAVORITE SONGS DURING THE XMAS HOLIDAYS

Dolores Parrault - I Went to your Wedding

Patsy Walker - Fortunes and Memories

Rolande Paradis - Rudolph the red-nosed Raindeer

Evelyn Goddu - Back Street Affair

Paul-Emile Paradis - Mockingbird Hill

Henriette LeBel - You Belong to me

Marguerite Cote - I never Maggie alone

Shirley Trottier - We all grow old in Time

Marzeline Heisler - Beautiful Brown Eyes

Harold Shortt - Wild side of Life

Lilianne Clement - St. Bernard's Waltz

Anne Barron - Georgie Porgie

Norris Stav - Answer to Wild Side of Life

Lionel Lemire - Jambalaya

Martha Commadore - Picking Berries

Dolores Sincennes - Songbirds are singing in

Heaven Tonight

ISSUE A PUBLICATION OF THE JEON XUYOU



THIS PROBLEM OF HOMEWORK

" $\frac{1}{2}$, axiom of equality." Ah, Heck! Why do I worry about this for? Sister probably won't even take Geometry tomorrow. I'll study Macbeth instead. Let's see now....Oh, yes, my memory work.

"Thou hast it now: king, Cawdor, Glamis, all,

As the weird women promised; and I fear....." Yes, I fear I won't know it tomorrow. And we've got a Physics test too. Gosh! It's nine o'clock already, I'd better hurry. Let's see: Density equals volume over weight... No, density equals weight over volume. I've forgotten it! Well, it's on page....Let's see ...Oh, yes, page 27. Ah, here it is. Y up! Density equals weight over volume.

"Buddy, there's no coal."

"O. K."

Let's see. What was it now? Density equals volume over weight.. Ah, Heck! I forgot it again.

"Buddy, get that coal!"

"I'm trying to do my homework."

Density equals weight over volume. Yes, that's right. Well, I finally got that learned. Yawn! Ho! Hum! Gee, I'm getting tired. I wonder what the show is tomorrow night...

"Have you seen the Star?"

"What for?"

"I want to find the name of the show."

"Did you look on the piano?"

"No."

Ah, here's the last Free Press. Gee, I forgot that I had never read the last funnies.

"Did you find the Star?"

"No, but it's O.K."

I'll start with Kelvin and read backwards. The first of the funniest are the driest anyway.

My, it's ten o'clock! Guess I'd better get that coal and go to bed. My Homework!!... I forgot all about my homework!!... I shouldn't have read those funnies.... Oh, well, I know that density equals volume over weight anyway. I won't be stuck on that one tomorrow.

Author: Buddy (N.S.)

GOING TO MIDNIGHT MASS

It was Christmas eve, and the night was calm and peaceful. The twinkling stars in the sky led the way to the village church. Everybody seemed happy and joyful. Some were going to church on foot, others came with cars and trucks. In the distance we could hear the jingling of harnesses and the tinkling of sleighbells ^{bell} announcing the people from the country. Then suddenly the church began to ring calling all the faithful to mass to worship the Savior that was born.

Paul-Emile Paradis

JOYEUX NOEL ET BONNE ANNEE A TOUS!

PROGRAMME

Playlet: Little Lady Santa Claus - Grades 1 & 2

Piano solo: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Piano Solo: Jingle Bells

Pièce: L'Offrande de Noël - Grades 5 & 6

Tap Dance - Grades 3 & 4

Choeur parlé: Bonnée Année - Grades 1 & 2

Duo: Adeste Fideles

Duo: D'où viens-tu, Bergère

Solo: Silent Night

Play: Santa on Trial - Grades 7 & 8

Duo: O Christmas Tree - Mary Purask

Paulette Briand

Chant mimé: Le petit Chaperon Rouge - Grades 3 & 4

Quartet: Jingle Bells

Choeurs: Noel des oiseaux

Our Country - Grades 9 & 10

Duet: Silent Night - Ann Barron
Emilie Lamothe

Tableau

Val-Marie

le 22 déc. 1952

JOYEUX NOËL!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

